80 Highland Ave.
Rochester, NY 14620
October 30, 1992

Judith Licht, Director
American Civil Liberties Union
121 N. Fitzhugh
Rochester, NY 14614

Re: Gay Alliance of Genesee Valley v. City Assessor

Dear Ms. Licht:

I am representing the Gay Alliance of Genesee Valley in the above-referenced matter on a pro bono basis. I asked Betsy Schneider, with whom I work, if the ACLU would be willing and able to file an amicus brief on our behalf, and she suggested I get in touch with you directly.

As you can see from the papers, the lawsuit involves a clear cut First Amendment issue, which the Rochester ACLU should find appealing. We could use all the help we can get because the case was assigned to Judge Andrew Siracuse about whom I have been told is probably the least sympathetic judge we could have drawn. I would suspect that if the ACLU were involved, even Judge Siracuse might think twice before throwing our case out.

The worst part of my request, I suppose, is that the return date is set for November 19, 1992, which doesn't give you all that much time to write an amicus. I wish I had contacted you earlier, but since I was doing this between "work," I just wasn't able to keep up with all the things I planned to do. Nevertheless, particularly if the Rochester chapter hasn't done much litigation lately, I think this is a sexy enough issue that the ACLU would like to get involved anyway.

Anyway, please call me during the day at 454-6500, or at home, 256-0508, if you would be interested in talking about this case further. Thank you for anything you can do.

Very truly yours,

Ellen Yacknin

Encl -